

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing replaces all prior such listings in this case.

Listing of Claims

1-27. (Canceled)

28. (Previously Presented) A fluid dynamic bearing motor comprising:

- a base having a closed end and an upstanding section extending from the closed end, the upstanding section and closed end defining a bore in the base;
- a stationary liner in the bore having a longitudinal wall and further having a bottom that is contiguous with the longitudinal wall extending radially inward from the longitudinal wall, the bottom defining a passage through the stationary liner, the liner positioned in contact with the closed end of the base and the upstanding section of the base;
- a rotor assembly having a shaft that is rotatably supported within the liner;
- a fluid dynamic bearing disposed between the shaft and the longitudinal wall;
- a capillary seal between the shaft and the liner having a close mating relationship end in fluid communication with the fluid dynamic bearing and an opposing diverging mating relationship end defining an inlet reservoir; and
- a channel outside the liner being recessed into the closed end and upstanding section of the base and in fluid contact with an outer surface of the liner, the channel operably fluidly communicating recirculating fluid from the fluid dynamic bearing via the passage to the inlet reservoir.

29. (New) The fluid dynamic bearing motor of claim 28, wherein the fluid dynamic bearing comprises a journal bearing operably supporting the shaft in rotation against the longitudinal wall and a thrust bearing operably supporting the shaft in rotation against the bottom.

30. (New) The fluid dynamic bearing motor of claim 28, wherein the shaft comprises a patterned feature that pumps fluid in the fluid dynamic bearing toward the passage.

31. (New) The fluid dynamic bearing motor of claim 30, wherein the patterned feature includes at least two grooved bearing surfaces.

32. (New) The fluid dynamic bearing motor of claim 28, wherein the rotor assembly comprises a flange and a stepped cylindrical sidewall extending from the flange and circumscribing at least a portion of the base.

33. (New) The fluid dynamic bearing motor of claim 28, wherein the liner defines an open end and the channel fluidly connects the fluid dynamic bearing via the passage with the open end.

34. (New) The fluid dynamic bearing motor of claim 28, wherein the channel guides the recirculating fluid around a distal end of the longitudinal wall to enter the inlet reservoir.

35. (New) A fluid dynamic bearing motor comprising:

- a base having a closed end and an upstanding section extending from the closed end, the upstanding section and closed end defining a bore in the base;
- a stationary liner in the bore having a longitudinal wall and further having a bottom that is contiguous with the longitudinal wall extending radially inward from the longitudinal wall, the bottom defining a passage through the stationary liner, the liner supported by the closed end of the base and the upstanding section of the base;
- a rotor assembly having a shaft that is rotatably supported within the liner;
- a fluid dynamic bearing disposed between the shaft and the longitudinal wall;
- a capillary seal between the shaft and the liner having a close mating relationship end in fluid communication with the fluid dynamic bearing and an opposing diverging mating relationship end defining an inlet reservoir; and
- a channel outside the liner being recessed into the closed end and upstanding section of the base and in fluid contact with an outer surface of the liner, the channel operably fluidly communicating recirculating fluid from the fluid dynamic bearing via the passage to the inlet reservoir.

36. (New) The fluid dynamic bearing motor of claim 35, wherein the fluid dynamic bearing comprises a journal bearing operably supporting the shaft in rotation against the longitudinal wall and a thrust bearing operably supporting the shaft in rotation against the bottom.

37. (New) The fluid dynamic bearing motor of claim 35, wherein the shaft comprises a patterned feature that pumps fluid in the fluid dynamic bearing toward the passage.

38. (New) The fluid dynamic bearing motor of claim 37, wherein the patterned feature includes at least two grooved bearing surfaces.

39. (New) The fluid dynamic bearing motor of claim 35, wherein the rotor assembly comprises a flange and a stepped cylindrical sidewall extending from the flange and circumscribing at least a portion of the base.

40. (New) The fluid dynamic bearing motor of claim 35, wherein the liner defines an open end and the channel fluidly connects the fluid dynamic bearing via the passage with the open end.

41. (New) The fluid dynamic bearing motor of claim 35, wherein the channel guides the recirculating fluid around a distal end of the longitudinal wall to enter the inlet reservoir.

42. (New) A fluid dynamic bearing motor comprising:

- a base having a closed end and an upstanding section extending from the closed end, the upstanding section and closed end defining a bore in the base;

- a stationary liner in the bore having a longitudinal wall and further having a bottom that is contiguous with the longitudinal wall extending radially inward from the longitudinal wall, the bottom defining a passage through the stationary liner, the liner positioned in contact with the closed end of the base and the upstanding section of the base;

- a rotor assembly having a shaft that is rotatably supported within the liner;

- a fluid dynamic bearing disposed between the shaft and the longitudinal wall;

- a capillary seal between the shaft and the liner having a close mating relationship end in fluid communication with the fluid dynamic bearing and an opposing diverging mating relationship end defining an inlet reservoir; and

- a channel outside the liner being recessed into at least one of the base and the liner and in fluid contact with an outer surface of the other of the base and liner, the channel operably fluidly communicating recirculating fluid from the fluid dynamic bearing via the passage to the inlet reservoir.

43. (New) The fluid dynamic bearing motor of claim 42, wherein the fluid dynamic bearing comprises a journal bearing operably supporting the shaft in rotation against the longitudinal wall and a thrust bearing operably supporting the shaft in rotation against the bottom.

44. (New) The fluid dynamic bearing motor of claim 42, wherein the shaft comprises a patterned feature that pumps fluid in the fluid dynamic bearing toward the passage.

45. (New) The fluid dynamic bearing motor of claim 42, wherein the rotor assembly comprises a flange and a stepped cylindrical sidewall extending from the flange and circumscribing at least a portion of the base.

46. (New) The fluid dynamic bearing motor of claim 42, wherein the liner defines an open end and the channel fluidly connects the fluid dynamic bearing via the passage with the open end.

47. (New) The fluid dynamic bearing motor of claim 42, wherein the channel guides the recirculating fluid around a distal end of the longitudinal wall to enter the inlet reservoir.